



The Sports Page



Harpy to be Back

The Zombies, George Pierce, 9/19/17, 8:00pm

We didn't know either team Tuesdays night: ours or the other team's. We had some idea who **The Zombies** would be, because we knew the players, but you never know how well a last minute, thrown together team will fare. Once we saw the **QTS Eagles**, we knew how we'd fare. We would win.

It was somehow fitting that **The Zombies**, back from the depths of Summer 1994, we in action against a new team, and I mean brand, spanking new. The umpires and I were helping the coach of the **QTS Eagles** before we got underway. He was a green as his team and speaking of his team, there must have been thirty of them! I was that guy back in 1990, the wide eyed dummy who had stuck up his hand when the team was deciding how would be the coach of a brand new team.

So, the 21th century **Zombies** grabbed our clubs to do some early damage as Visitors and, *boy*, did we do some damage! We started off hot with a leadoff triple from **Larry "Chickadee" Civelli**. A dink single put a second runner on the bases then **John "Red Footed Booby" Culligan** stroked a gap and ran a lap for a three-run inside-the-park and we had a lead we would never relinquish. A double followed the homer then **Derrick "Montezuma" Quarles** got into the act with a deep gapper and had a two-run, inside-the-park homer of his own and we led 5-0! **Andrew "Common Loon" Hess** went deep for an inside-the-park homer of the one-run variety and we led 6-0, before a back-to-back outs threatened to derail us. A single and double got us back on track then **Jerry "Greater Pewee" Smith** singled for a two-out run, **Larry Civelli** drove I a pair with a double and **Rocky "Magpie" McCoy** drove in one more on a base hit before **John "Swallow" Culligan** tripled to put us up 11-0! **Tim "Gray-Cheeked Thrush" McCoy's** caboose got on first with an RBI single, but a fly-out ended the train. We batted sixteen times in the first inning and **Larry Civelli, Rocky McCoy, John Culligan** and **Tim McCoy** were each 2-2 and we led 12-0. The **QTS Eagles** were not necessarily on their heels from our big first inning. They were new and green and happy to be on the field and having all kinds of fun and managed to score two runs to cut into our lead, 12-2.

We kept on hitting in the second inning, but most of it was with two men out. A ground-out led us off then back-to-back doubles made it 13-2. A line-out gave us the second out then "Life of" **Brian Byrdsong** tripled home a two-out run and **Jerry "Rufous Hummingbird" Smith** added another on a base knock. **Larry "Shy Albatross" Civelli** drove in a run with a double and **Rock "Sandpiper" McCoy** did the same with a single. A double put two guys in scoring position then **Tim "Titmouse" McCoy** and **Derrick "Wandering Tattler" Quarles** each drove in a run with a base hit. A fly-out, in our twelfth at bat ended the run, but not before we'd driven in seven runs to take a 19-2 lead. The **QTS Eagles** added one to their total, 19-3, through two.

We began the third inning with a ground-out, but **Jon "Pygmy Nuthatch" Laporte** got us going with a triple and scored on a double. Another double made it 21-3 then **Jerry "Hairy Woodpecker" Smith** buried one n the corner and took a stroll around the block for a one-out, inside-the-park homer and we led 23-3! **Larry "Gray Flycatcher" Civelli**, not to be out done, stroked one into the opposite corner and toured the bags on a one-run, inside-the-park homer to put us up 24-3! The next guys singled and a fly-out followed. A base hit put a second man on base then **Derrick "Wild Turkey" Quarles** and **Andrew "Cackling Goose" Hess** each drove in two-out runs with singles and we led 26-3 on the strength of another twelve at bat inning where we totaled seven runs. The **QTS Eagles** had to fight to stay alive now. They would have to put a dozen runs on the board to earn another inning. We limited them to just two and won the game, by run-rule, 26-5!

Run rule	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
The Zombies	12	7	7	-	-	-	-	26
QTS Eagles	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	5

I don't feel bad for the **QTS Eagles** that game. I was right there 27 years ago and we turned out alright. They've got a climb ahead of them, but they had some decent players sprinkled in there. They knew they might be bad and didn't care. In a strange way, I kind of miss that. Everything was up from there and we were having fun and learning how we might get better. But enough about our opponent. Our thrown together **Zombies** looked damn good right out of the gate. Granted, we played a very, very green team, but we had more than our share of good hits. Much of our extra base hitting had something to do with the defense we faced. We could have fielded better than we did, but when you spot yourselves the kind of runs we did, ya don't sweat the "D". Great start, **Zombies!**

Larry "Flame Colored Tanager" Civelli was 4-4 with four RBI, **Rocky "Bufflehead" McCoy** and **Tim "American Coot" McCoy** were each 4-4 with two ribs, **Jerry "Blue Jay" Smith** was 3-3 with four ribbies and **Brian Byrdsong "Sung Blue"** was 3-3 with a pair.

Teeny Tawny

Motörhead, Bethesda, 9/20/17, 9:30pm

Motörhead was 0-2 and looking to knock somebody off Wednesday night and the team in the other dugout was one we'd been beat. The **Victory Eagles** were a church team than many of our teams have faced in the last year. They beat **Smoke on the Water** to begin Summer 2016, but we beat them twice, later in the season en route to a surprise Championship.

We were Home team and took the field with all eleven guys, though **William Shelburne** showed up well into the half hour for a 9:30 game. Rush hour goes late in his time zone.

The **Victory Eagles** came out hitting in the first inning, but we held them to just one run. In the bottom half, we started with back-to-back singles then loaded the bases with a walk. We scored tying run on a fielder's-choice the **Dan** "California Gnatcatcher" **Covault** put us up 2-1 with a double. We made it 3-0 on a fly-out and a single later, **Rock** "Wren" **McCoy** dove in a two-out run to make it 4-1 before a fielder's-choice ended the inning.

We blanked the **Victory Eagles** in the second inning, but started off where we'd left off in the back half of two. We singled and double for four more runs, the last on a two-out single from **Dan** "Oystercatcher" **Covault**, and held an 8-1 lead through two. We held a 12-2 lead after three as the **Victory Eagles** put up one and we answered with a third straight four spot.

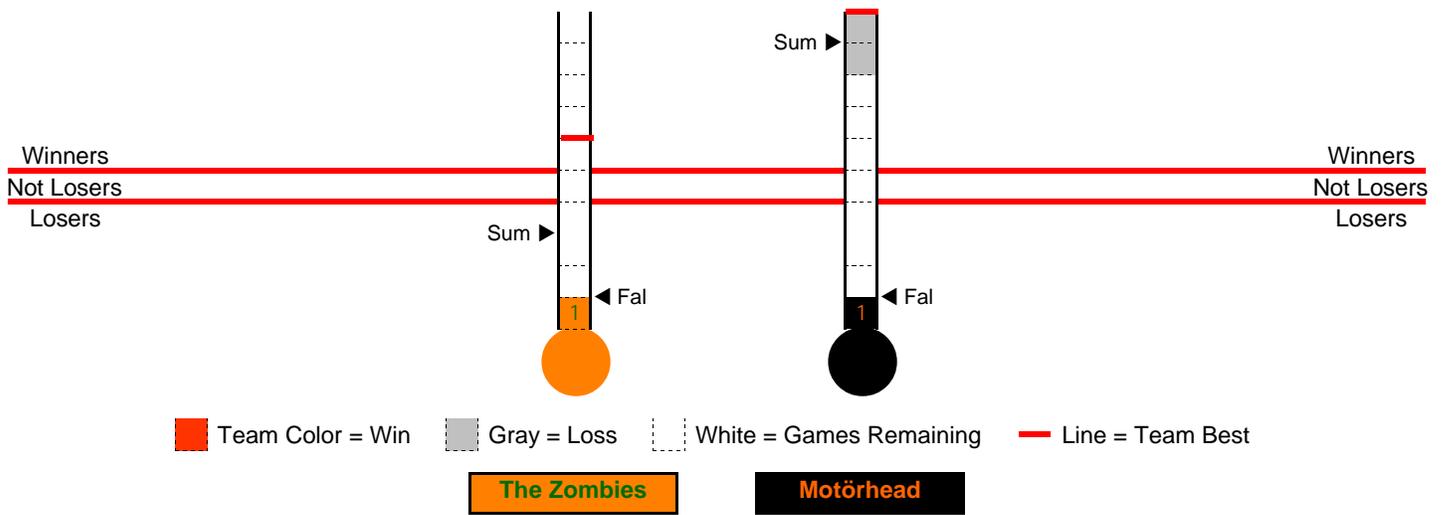
The **Victory Eagles** got a run in the top of the fourth, to make it 12-3 and we were thinking run rule in the bottom of the inning. Three runs would send the **Victory Eagles** home to their nest early. We started with a single and double and scored a run on a fly-out to lead 13-3. A line-out froze the runners then "Swift" **Marshall Shepard** stroked a triple for a two-out run! A walk didn't get Marshall home and neither did the fly-out that ended the inning and we led 14-3 after four.

Now the **Victory Eagles** needed two in the top of the fifth to make us bat, but we handed them a donut and won the game, by run-rule, 14-3!

Run rule	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Victory Eagles	1	0	1	1	0	-	-	3
Motörhead	4	4	4	2	x	-	-	14

We sent a weaker team home early and got in the win column. That was the goal and we hit it. I liked the way we hit that game. We scored multiple runs every inning and had some nice stretches with no outs. I'd like to see a few more extra base hits, but nobody is complaining. Our defense was okay and still held an opponent to just three runs in five tries. One little victory at a time, guys. Good job, **Motörhead!**

Dan Covault "imore Oriole" was 3-3 with two RBI, **Derrick** "Dusky Flycatcher" **Quarles** was 3-3 with one, **Larry** "Surfbird" **Civelli** was 2-2 with a walk and two ribs and **Jason** "Yellow-Rumped Warbler" **Tyler** was 2-2 with a walk and a ribbies.



Rain Numbers for Each Park

George Pierce	Bethesda
(770) 822-8882	(770) 822-8882

“When in doubt, come on out.”

Tuesday 9/26/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 7:00 - 1H vs. Caught Looking

Wednesday 9/27/17 at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2017

MH 7:30 - 8V vs. Maxxis Creepy Crawlers

Tuesday 10/3/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 8:00 - 1H vs. Alpha Elite

Wednesday 10/4/17 at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2017

MH 8:30 - 10V vs. Wild Wing Bar & Grill

MH 9:30 - 9H vs. Los Menores

Tuesday 10/10/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 10:00 - 1V vs. Jaamarti

Wednesday 10/11/17 at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2017

MH 6:30 - 9V vs. The Wash Ups

Tuesday 10/17/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 7:00 - 1V vs. Scuf Gaming

Wednesday 10/18/17 at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2017

MH 9:30 - 8H vs. Smash & Dash

Tuesday 10/24/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 10:00 - 1V vs. Red Devils

Wednesday 10/25/17 at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2017

MH 7:30 - 10V vs. Sons of Pitches

Wednesday 11/1/17 at Bethesda Community Park - Fall 2017

MH 8:30 - 8V vs. Royal Flush

Tuesday 11/7/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 10:00 - 1H vs. QTS Eagles

Tuesday 11/14/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 9:00 - 1V vs. Wolverton Wolverines

Tuesday 11/21/17 at George Pierce Park - Fall 2017

ZM 9:00 - 1H vs. Red Devils (makeup from 9/5/17)



Standings & Scouting Reports – Fall 2017

Bold Italics = Our team. *Normal Brown Italics* = Our next opponent, **PST** = Post Season Tournament. **TBD** = To Be Determined. Asterisks after an opponent's name represents how many times we play that opponent if we play them more than once. A team in "< >" is a team we do not play during the season. The far right column shows our overall record against that opponent.

Tuesday - George Pierce Men's - Recreational, No Homers No PST	
Alpha Elite	1-0
Jaamarti	1-0
Red Devils **	1-0
The Zombies	1-0
<i>Caught Looking</i>	0-1
QTS Eagles **	0-1
Scuf Gaming	0-1
Wolverton Wolverines **	0-1

overall
record

0-0
0-0
0-0
n/a
0-0
1-0
0-0
0-0

The Zombies play **Caught Looking** next. This team generally juts shows up late in the year. They seem to have half a dozen guys, or so, and pick up a few every week.

They can be a decent team and beat **The Cowboys** once in seven tries, but lost to the **Jets**, the one time we played them.

If we hit the ball well, early on, and let them know who's who, we'll be fine, but we can't let them hang around.

They'll have trouble picking up guys for a 7:00 game. We'll also have trouble seeing when we're batting in the first few innings, because the sun will be in our eyes.

Wednesday - Bethesda Men's - Recreational, No Homers No PST	
Royal Flush **	4-0
The Wash Ups	3-0
Motley Crew	3-1
Sons of Pitches	3-1
Wild Wing Bar & Grill	2-1
Motörhead	1-2
Victory Eagles	1-2
Los Menores	1-3
<i>Maxxis Creepy Crawlers</i>	0-4
Smash & Dash	0-4

overall
record

25-3
0-0
20-6
13-0
6-4
0-0
3-0
1-0
0-0
5-2

Motörhead plays the **Maxxis Creepy Crawlers** next.

This is not a good team we're playing this week, based on the standings, but, then, we're 1-2, so we can't talk.

Once again, we have our backs to the wall all season, because of a rough start, so we don't want to overlook a weaker team. We need to send these guys home in half an hour. We should not see a fifth inning.

We have a tough double-header next week then we face another tough opponent the following week. Let's use the **Maxxis Creepy Crawlers** as practice and hose them off our field quickly.

Birthdays & Batting Titlists

September Birthdays

MARTIN, DAVID	9/11
GOODMAN, NANCIE	9/12
GROCE, GARY	9/12
HEUER, JENNY	9/14
LITTLE, JAMES	9/14
THEISS, MATT	9/14
PRICE, PARRISH	9/16
GARDO, DON	9/18
MILNER, JAY	9/21
YAZGE, DEVIN	9/23
BAUER, DARRELL	9/25
BEAL, JOHN	9/26
GOMEZ, GABE	9/26
JOYCE, CARON	9/26
STAFFORD, CARLA	9/27
BESSETTE, BRYCE	9/28
CRIDER, ZACK	9/28
RUSSELL, DIMARIO	9/28

October Birthdays

ROGERS, JASON	10/1
SHREVE, STEVE	10/2
NORTON, DAWN	10/4
BINDER, DEAN	10/5
MCCORD, KYLIE	10/5
NGUYEN, DIEP	10/5
UMPHENOUR, DARIN	10/5
BRUMLEY, DENISE	10/6
COVAULT, DAN	10/6
BOGDAL, KYLE	10/7
WHEELER, DENA	10/8
HERMAN, MATT	10/9
MARQUEZ, DAVID	10/10
AHMED, AMMAR	10/11
SETZER, PHIL	10/11
SUGGS, STEVEN	10/11
SHEA, SHERYL	10/14
REILLY, MARK	10/15
ORTIZ, JHONATAN	10/17
SPIVEY, HEATHER	10/17
ZIENKO, LAURIE	10/17
GONZALEZ, XAVIER	10/19
KOPSHO, MAX	10/20
MANDEL, MATTHEW	10/20
ANDERSON, NELS	10/22
JONES, WAYLON	10/23
LEWANDOWSKI, MARTY	10/24
LYLES, CINDY	10/24
NATIONS, MARK	10/24
LECROY, STEVEN	10/25
ELLIS, DEBBIE	10/26
PRACHYL, STEVE	10/26
CONKLIN, RYAN	10/27
JOHNSON, DON	10/27
SHARP, MIKE	10/28
OTTINGER, JASON	10/30
PAYNE, DAVID	10/30
ALLEN, SHERRI	10/31
BUTLER, CATHERINE	10/31
GREENWOOD, NICHOLAS	10/31
QUIGLEY, LOGAN	10/31
SHUMAKER, MICHAEL	10/31
WRIGHT, BOBBY	10/31

Spring 2017



Kelvin Rachu **0.771**

Tyler Edema **0.733**



0.667

0.621



Tim McCoy **0.743**

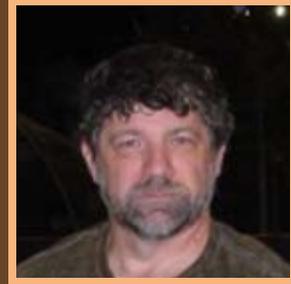
Kyle Shelton **0.618**

Above team average:

B.Shumaker 0.581

M.Reilly 0.559

B.McElhaney 0.533



Jerry Smith **0.607**

John Culligan **0.462**

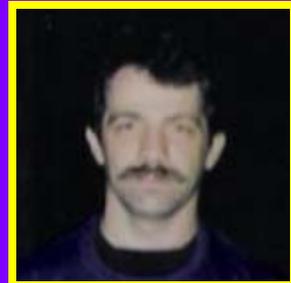


Tim McCoy **0.706**

Keith James **0.679**

0.600

0.567



Bat Certification Testing



From now on Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation will use a new procedure for certifying Softball bats used at Bethesda, George Pierce and Best Friend Parks.

Before a bat can be used in a game it must be tested to verify that it conforms to ASA guidelines regarding compression.

It's a simple test. The barrel of the bat is placed into a fixture to steady the bat and position it at the proper location on the barrel. The handle rests on a pad to hold the bat level. A gauge with a dial is screwed down onto the barrel of the bat. This does not damage the bat and only takes 20-30 seconds.

If the reading on the dial shows a legal bat then the person testing the bat will affix an orange sticker (pictured on the left) just above the tape on the handle.

If a bat fails, it's no problem, but no sticker, either.

To use a bat in a Gwinnett park you need the sticker, regardless of the manufacturer's stamp, or list of bats on a website, or a note from your Mom or the Pope, or any other form of verification. No sticker, no bat.

Bat testing will begin before the first game every night and end sometime before the first game starts. Bats may also be tested at the GCPR office during regular business hours as long as you make an appointment.

Any player using an illegal (non stickered) bat will be called out. If a player steps in the batter's box with a non certified bat, he's called out. If he gets a hit with that bat and somebody notices after the fact, he's out.

All bats must be tested before the first game of every new season.